

STUDIES ON IDIOCERINAE LEAFHOPPERS, XIX: A NEW
GENUS FROM SURINAM, NORTHERN SOUTH AMERICA

J. Maldonado-Capriles

Abstract.—The new idiocerine genus and species *Nannicerus gracilis*, are described, illustrated, and compared with allied leafhopper taxa.

The new genus and species described below was found among material sent to me for study by Dr. J. P. Kramer, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agric. Res. Serv., USDA, c/o U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.

The types are deposited in the USNM and in my collection (JMC). In the descriptions that follow, 13 micrometer units are equivalent to 1.0 mm.

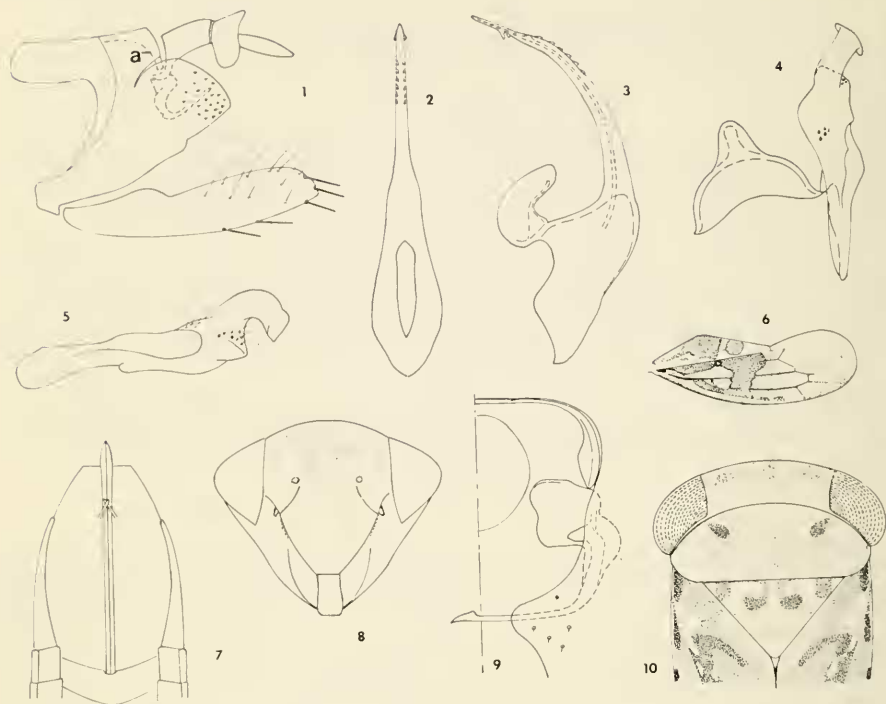
Nannicerus Maldonado-Capriles, new genus

Male.—Stramineous; basal $\frac{1}{2}$ of forewings conspicuously ornamented with reddish areas and with 1 or 2 black spots on base of clavus and corium. Ocelli apart at $3\times$ the distance from ocellus to eye. Pronotum slightly longer than vertex; scutellum about as long as pronotum. Forewing with 4 apical, no anteapical, and 1 costal cell. Inner-lower row (r_4) of spines of hind tibia consisting of spines of 2 different thicknesses. Pygofer subtriangular with a strong longitudinal fracture on upper margin; plates with fine setae on upper margin and a few strong setae on lower margin; 10th tergum with complex, hook-like appendix on lower basal angle; aedeagus with dorsal subapical double row of short peg-like spines.

Female.—Shape and coloration much as in male. Female genitalia as in Fig. 7; relatively broad across pygofers, with pair of fine hairs crossed over ovipositor.

Nannicerus gracilis Maldonado-Capriles, new species

Male.—Base coloration of head and thorax stramineous. Vertex with 3 round pale orange spots near anterior margin, vitreous area well developed (Fig. 10). Face (Fig. 8) with orange spots above and between ocelli; postclypeus, genae, anteclypeus, and lora mostly stramineous, apical $\frac{1}{2}$ of anteclypeus brownish, gena with narrow blackish area below antenna. Postclypeus with trace or with 2 well-developed rows of pale orange spots on disc. Scutellum as in Fig. 10; pale yellow, ornamented with dark brown. Forewing (Fig. 6) translucent; costal margin to apex of outer apical cell blackish; clavus and basal $\frac{1}{2}$ of corium irregularly ornamented with pink or reddish areas that are margined with red or violet, reddish



Figs. 1-10. *Nannicerus gracilis*. 1, genital capsule, male, lateral. 2, aedeagus, male, caudal. 3, aedeagus, male, lateral. 4, connective and style, dorsal. 5, style, male, lateral. 6, forewing, female. 7, genital capsule, female, ventral. 8, face, male, frontal. 9, detail of appendix of tenth tergum, male, caudal. 10, anterior half of body, male, dorsal.

areas sometimes of a moldy appearance; apical $\frac{1}{2}$ of corium without these areas, some cells smokey; clavus and/or corium basally with black oval areas in some specimens (Fig. 10); veins reddish, in some areas poorly defined. Legs stramineous or yellowish; apex and apical spines of metatibia light brown; tarsi yellowish. Abdominal sterna brownish with apical margin narrowly yellow. Genital capsule dark brown, margin of 7th sternum narrowly yellow.

Head: Vertex $4\times$ as wide as long (10:2.5), margins parallel; pronotum nearly $2.5\times$ as wide as long (16:7); hind margin nearly straight. Scutellum $1.5\times$ as wide as long (12:8); face wider across eyes than long (20:18); ocelli apart at nearly $3\times$ the distance from ocellus to eye (6:2). Lateral margin of postclypeus slightly curved; upper lateral suture not reaching ocellus of corresponding side, slightly arcuate. Anteclypeus $2\times$ as long as wide basally (5:2.5), sides concave. Metafemur with 2 apical spines;

spines of metatibia as follows: r_1 —30–35 hair-like; r_2 —14 fine; r_3 —5 stronger, from about midlength to apex; r_4 —first 5 or 6 as fine as those in r_2 and last 4 or 5 nearly as strong as those in r_3 .

Genitalia: Pygofer subtriangular, with strong longitudinal fracture above, uppermost margin with ventrally projected apodeme (a in Fig. 1); plates with fine setae on upper margin and 5 stronger setae on lower and apical margins. Tenth tergum as in Figs. 1 and 9; with complex hook-like appendix on lower basal angle. Style as in Figs. 4 and 5. Aedeagus (Figs. 2, 3) long, slender, curved cephalad; subapically with dorsal double row of small peg-like spines; gonopore opening dorsally near apex. Connective semicircular, flat (Fig. 4). Length 4.4 mm.

Female.—Coloration much as in male; row of spots on postclypeus well defined, light brown; black under antenna more extensive than in male. Spots of scutellum extending and fusing with each other or smaller than in male. Abdominal sterna lighter or darker than in male; genital capsule brown.

Head: Width across eyes 2.1; vertex as in male (11:2.5); pronotum as in male (18:7); scutellum as in male (13:9). Face slightly wider across eyes than long (21:19); ocelli very slightly closer to eyes than in male (2:6.5).

Genitalia: Genital capsule shorter than abdominal sterna together (20:27); across pygofers relatively broad (Fig. 7), each pygofer with a fine setae bent mesad over ovipositor; last abdominal sternum concave and with a small round notch medianly. Length 4.6 mm.

Holotype.—Male, BRITISH GUIANA. Demerara, 13 March 1913, in the USNM, Cat. No. 74019.

Allotype.—Female, same data, in the USNM. Paratypes 7 males and 4 females; one of each in JMC, others in USNM; all with same data as holotype.

The general shape of this new genus and species is somewhat similar to some of the small species erroneously described by Osborn (1923, 1924) as belonging to *Idiocerus*. I have studied the male genitalia of Osborn's types. Osborn's species can be separated into two groups, one including those species with no anteapicals and another including those with one or two anteapicals. *Nannicerus* differs from those in the first group and is characterized by the longitudinal fracture of the pygofer, the shape of the aedeagus, the arrangement and shape of spines on r_4 , and the setae of the plates. These characters also separate it from the other idiocerine genera.

Etymology.—*Nanni* means baby, and hence small, in Nepalese and is the nickname of my daughter María Teresa who was born in Nepal; *cerus*, meaning antenna, is an ending commonly used in the generic names of the idiocerines.

Literature Cited

- Osborn, H. 1923. Neotropical Homoptera of the Carnegie Museum. Ann. Carnegie Mus. 15(1):8-26.
———. 1924. III-IV. Neotropical Homoptera of the Carnegie Museum. Ann. Carnegie Mus. 15(3):383-396.

Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, P.R. 00708.

NOTE

THE DATES OF WALKER,
INSECTA SAUNDERSIANA . . . DIPTERA

Walker's portion of *Insecta Saundersiana* . . . the Diptera, was published in five continuous paged parts between 1850 and 1856. These parts have been traditionally dated as follows: Pt. I, pp. [i], 1-76, pls. 1-2, 1850; Pt. II, pp. 77-156, pls. III-IV, 1851; Pt. III, pp. 157-252, pls. V-VI & Pt. IV, pp. 253-414, pls. VII-VIII, 1852; and Pt. V., pp. [ii], 415-474, 1856. (Horn & Schenkling, 1929. Index Literature Entomol. ser. I. p. 1284; 1913. Cat. Books Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.). 4:1811; and Stone et al., 1965. Catalogue of Diptera of America North of Mexico, USDA Agric. Hdbk. 276. Pp. 1461-1462). The source for this dating is not given but probably stems from Hagen (1863. Bibliotheca Entomol. 2:254). Hagen gave dates for all parts except Part IV and this is the part which has been incorrectly dated as 1852, the same date as Part III. Most copies of this book have been bound without the covers (wrappers) with which each part was issued. I have recently acquired a copy with the covers bound-in. The cover for Part IV is dated 1853, a date which is also on plates VII-VIII. This change in publication date, while affecting the dates for about 300 species, will probably not affect the stability of nomenclature because no other major works on exotic Diptera were published in 1852-1853.

F. Christian Thompson, 4255 South 35th Street, Arlington, Virginia 22206.